

## REMARKS

This Response responds to the Office Action dated June 28, 2006 in which the Examiner rejected claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Claims 1, 4, 11, 13-17 and 20-23 claim an imaging processing apparatus and method having a sortation memory portion provided in the form of a virtually sorted prescribed memory area to store sorted information while confirming whether a similar structure exists on another different processing apparatus. Nothing in the prior art shows, teaches or suggests the features as claimed in claims 1, 4, 11, 13-17 and 20-23.

Claims 1-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Yamada* (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0250203).

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). The claims have been reviewed in light of the Office Action, and for reasons which will be set forth below, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to the claims and allows the claims to issue.

*Yamada* appears to disclose [0001] a WebJINS various information magazine automatic editing system, and particularly relates to a WebJINS various information magazine automatic editing system capable of performing automatic editing through an Internet network. [0067] FIG. 2 shows elements related to the WebJINS various information magazine automatic editing system. [0074] The automatic editing, imposition and proofread device 105 and the editing layout device 106 consist of the automatic editing/composition main PC 13a and the automatic editing/composition sub PC 13b. The automatic editing, composition and proofread device 105 fetches the publication data (publication instruction, manuscript and client data) stored in the

WebJINS system database 102 into the system, and creates imposition data from the publication instruction data to perform the automatic layout of the manuscript (automatic editing). In addition, the automatic editing, composition and proofread device 105 allows the editing person to proofread (imposition-proofread) the automatically laid-out advertisement manuscript. Further, the automatic editing, composition and proofread device 105 creates a page-up manuscript to be fetched by the editing layout device from the imposition data. [0075] The editing layout device 106 fetches and displays the page-up data created by the automatic editing, imposition and proofread device 105 and the image data on the image server 11. The editing layout device 106 allows the editing person to finally check the displayed advertisement manuscript. The editing layout device 106 converts the advertisement manuscript into a PS (Post Script) file and supplies the PS file to the entire paste processor 107. In addition, the editing layout device 106 transmits, as a block copy image, the manuscript data, for which the portable terminal or each user terminal issues a facsimile transmission request, to a client facsimile through a facsimile software. [0156] FIG. 7 is a process block diagram of the WebJINS system. As shown in FIG. 7, the registration, correction, deletion processings and the like for client information, publication agreement information, manuscript text data and publication instruction information are mounted, as three hierarchy systems consisting of the user terminal 100, the Web application server 101 and the WebJINS system database 102, into the WebJINS various information magazine automatic editing system in this embodiment. The WebJINS system database 102 includes a database server 102a and a WebJINS database 102b. [0157] When each operation terminal (client) constituting the user terminal 100 issues a search request

or an update request for these pieces of data, the defined JAVA (Registered trademark of Sun Microsystems, Incorporated) program 101a of the Web application server 101 is requested to start the search/input screen of this system from a client-side browser and the defined JAVA program 101a of the Web application server 101 processes the request as a browser request on the screen displayed in HTML format through a communications device such as a dedicated line, a cellular phone, a PHS or the like over the Internet network 43. [0158] The Web application server 101 monitors an issued request. If receiving the request from an operation terminal, the Web application server 101 acquires the content of the request for the defined JAVA program 101a from the operation terminal. If receiving the search request for client information, the Web application server 101 requests the database server 102a of the WebJINS system database 102 to search client information having a designated client code, creates searched client information as a response HTML 101b, and sends the created response HTML 101b to each operation terminal through the Internet network 43. [0159] After transmitting the request, the client-side browser of the operation terminal monitors the issued request until the browser receives the response HTML 101b, displays the content of the response HTML 101b on a screen, and appropriately continues later processings. [0163] FIG. 8 is a view explaining the newly registration of manuscript data. [0179] FIG. 9 is a view explaining the change of the manuscript data. [0199] FIG. 10 is a view explaining the duplication of the manuscript data.

Thus, *Yamada* merely discloses a WebJINS system which automatically edits a variety of data (client data, manuscript data, publication instruction data, sales data, etc.) and includes a system database 102, server 101 and user group 100

having terminals. Thus, *Yamada* merely searches from a terminal (100) through data in a server and calls and modifies data in the database 102. Nothing in *Yamada* shows, teaches or suggests a) an image processing apparatus having a sortation memory portion provided in a form of virtually sorted, prescribed memory area and b) the sortation memory portion is in communication with a different image processing apparatus as claimed in claims 1, 4, 11, 13-17 and 20-23. Rather, *Yamada* merely discloses a single system which communicates with its various parts to edit different types of data.

Furthermore, *Yamada* merely discloses a user group 100 searches through data in a server 101 and calls and modifies the data in a database 102. Nothing in *Yamada* shows, teaches or suggests registering, storing or erasing additional information to the sortation memory portion by communication with another image processing apparatus as claimed in claims 1, 4, 11, 13-17 and 20-23. In other words, nothing in *Yamada* shows, teaches or suggests communicating additional information from another image processing apparatus and then registering, erasing and communicating the information to the sortation memory portion as claimed in claims 1, 4, 11, 13-17 and 20-23. Rather, *Yamada* only conducts a search from a terminal, calls data and edits the data.

Since nothing in *Yamada* shows, teaches or suggests the primary features as claimed in claims 1, 4, 11, 13-17 and 20-23 as discussed above, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 1, 4, 11, 13-17 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Claims 2-3, 5-10, 12 and 18-19 recite additional features. Applicants respectfully submits that claims 2-3, 5-10, 12 and 18-19 would not have been

anticipated by *Yamada* within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §102(e) at least for the reasons at set forth above. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 2-3, 5-10, 12 and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

The prior art of record, which is not relied upon, is acknowledged. The references taken singularly or in combination do not anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention.

Thus, it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.


In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge  
our Deposit Account No. 02-4800

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN-INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

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